

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/714,037

Examiner

Nader Bolourchi

Applicant(s)

KNOTTS, THOMAS A.

Art Unit

2611

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/16/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 19-34.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


DAVID C. PAYNE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Remarks

1. Applicant's amendment dated 08/16/2007 is entered.
2. Claim rejections under 35 USC § 112 are withdrawn.
3. Claims rejections under 35 USC § 102 are withdrawn.
4. Claims rejections under 35 USC § 103 are withdrawn.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments, see Remarks pages 7-8, filed 08/16/2007, with respect to claims 1-23 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 19 and 24; as well as objection of claims 20-23 has been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 19-34 are allowed.
7. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Koide (US 2003/0118380), and Pham (US 2005/0057289). However, the prior arts of record fail to teach or suggest in combination, the arrangement that **“a voltage controlled oscillator (VCO); and a frequency detector in signal communication with said VCO, said frequency detector including: a counter configured to receive: a VCO signal from said VCO; and a preset value; and a**

Art Unit: 2611

controller operable to control said counter; wherein said counter generates frequency information related to said VCO signal in response to said controller, said VCO signal, and said preset value;" in combination with "a voltage controlled oscillator (VCO); and a frequency detector in signal communication with said VCO, said frequency detector including: a counter configured to receive: a VCO signal from said VCO; and a preset value; and a controller operable to control said counter; wherein said counter generates frequency information related to said VCO signal in response to said controller, said VCO signal, and said preset value;" in order to form "A PHASE-LOCKED LOOP", as recited in claim 19, and some variation of wording as recited in claims 25 and 30, and further limitation of their respective dependent claims 20-24, 26-29, and 31-34, correspondingly.

8. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nader Bolourchi whose telephone number is (571) 272-8064. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 to 4:30.

Art Unit: 2611


10. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David. C. Payne can be reached on (571) 272-3024. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

11. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at (866) 217-9197 (toll-free).

Nader Bolourchi

NB

08/27/2007



DAVID C. PAYNE

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER